



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

Greenfield Hall

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343 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, New Jersey 08033

MARCH 1988

Candlelight Dinner

The Historical Society's Annual Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 1988, at Tavistock Country Club. Our Guest Speaker will be Mr. David Munn, Director of the Cherry Hill Library. Mr. Munn has graciously agreed to share with us his research on the Croft Farm of Cherry Hill. This piece of property is significant to the Historical Society of Haddonfield as during one period in its illustrious history the land did cross the border into Haddonfield.

Many interesting uses have been made of this property. Let us find out together why the Village of Uxbridge disappeared, who owned the different mills and why the first authorized road in West Jersey was on this property. I am sure you will find answers to these questions plus more interesting tidbits on our local development.

Informal greetings will begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner following at 7:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased for \$18.00 per person. For more information or ticket reservations please contact Margie Kanupke at 795-5810 after 5:00 p.m.



LIBRARY NEWS

The library is moving forward at a steady pace with the project to reorganize, index and properly store our invaluable document collection. To date over six thousand individual items have been examined, indexed and put into acid-free storage materials. Several of our major collections of family papers have been completed including the Gill, Rhoads, and Rowand family papers.

Currently we are preparing for the survey which will be done by the Center for the Conservation of Art and Historic Artifacts in May. In addition, we have had a number of individuals using the collection for research over the late fall and early spring.

The library will be closed on March 22 and March 24 due to vacation schedules. It will be open the second Monday evening of each month from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. as well as Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Anyone with time to donate during those hours is most welcome to join us in the library. There are several projects we would like to begin, including organizing and storing a number of photographs donated over the years which remain untouched. If you have particular expertise in photographic handling and storage your assistance would be particularly welcome. The library collections of the Society represent one of its greatest assets. We are anxious to have these collections as available and as useable as possible for our members and for all those who come to pursue an interest in historical, geneological or architectural research.

Kathy Tassini
Librarian

WOMAN'S COMMITTEE

The Woman's Committee is happy to announce that the net proceeds for the Annual Holly Festival was \$1,632.99. Again this year, the Williamsburg door decorations were beautiful and sold out early as did the poinsettia plants. Special thanks to all the bakers who donated the delicious baked goods.

In 1987 the Woman's Committee, with the aid of many Society members and their families, raised \$10,590.41. Due to their hard work the Village Fair, the Auction and the Holly Festival were extremely successful.

The Woman's Committee is now looking forward to the Village Fair which will be held June 4, 1988. Again, we will be asking for your unfailing participation and cooperation.

Mary Jane Freedley
Chair

INTERESTED IN DOING RESEARCH ABOUT HADDONFIELD?

The first purpose of the Society stated in our charter is "the study of the history of the Borough of Haddonfield... the study of organizations, societies, families and individuals and events."

For many years the Historical Society had an active committee doing research into many aspects of local history. From this committee came publications and many unpublished papers that are housed in the Society's library.

The Society needs to reactivate the Research Committee. This is a call to all members interested in working on this very basic and most important aspect of the organization. There are many exciting and interesting projects that need exploring or perhaps you have a particular interest of your own. Please contact me to join the Society's Research Committee.

Douglas Rauschenberger
Chair
(609) 429-1304

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

With this issue, the Society is testing changes in the *Bulletin* - change in design and change in editorial.

Response to the questionnaire mailed to members last year indicated a strong interest in "learning more about Haddonfield". Among the recommendations made during the annual meeting in November was to improve the *Bulletin* by placing more emphasis on history and research. This issue is designed to incorporate both suggestions.

While it responds to an expressed need for a more professional publication, this issue does not fulfill the need for better communication of the other programs, activities and needs of the Society. In all likelihood we shall have to publish a more informal, "newsy" newsletter.

The course the Society follows in the future will depend on two factors: Your response and the budget.

Let us know what you think. Do you like this issue? Have you any ideas for improving it? Ideas for future issues? The *Bulletin* editor will welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to: Bulletin Editor, Historical Society of Haddonfield, 343 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033.

Patricia W. Lennon
President

This article was written by Carrie E. Nicholson Hartel (1878-1966) in 1948. As Senior Historian of the Society for many years, Mrs. Hartel authored a number of interesting articles about local places and people; the originals are housed in the manuscript collection of the Society Library.

THE ATTEE LEEMAN LOT

by *Carrie Nicholson Hartel*

In 1781, on the first day of March, John Estaugh Hopkins and Sarah, his wife, granted and conveyed to Jacob Cox, wheelwright, one acre and twelve perches¹ of land, subject of a yearly ground rent of six Spanish milled dollars and two thirds of a dollar payable to John Estaugh Hopkins, or his heirs, on the first day of March forever.

Twenty-six years after this (28 March 1807) Jacob Cox and Mary, his wife, sold a little more than one third of this property to Attee Leeman, farmer for \$112.00 with all buildings, fences, streetways etc. subject to a yearly ground rent of three Spanish milled dollars and one third of a dollar to be paid the first of March to the devisees of John Estaugh Hopkins.

Previous to this Jacob Cox had granted a lot to Hannah Parkham. Attee Leeman's lot began at a corner of Hannah Parkham's and ran by the Meeting House street or Road leading to Coppers Ferries² 5 chains 72 links³ (377.52 ft.) to a fork, thence by the lower Road (Tanner St.) 4 chains 68 links (308.88 ft.) to a peartree corner to Hannah Parkham, thence by her lot 2 chains 33 links (153.78 ft.) to beginning containing one road and twenty three perches.

Attee Leeman, a Negro, was one of the thirty-two charter members of the Fire Company of Haddonfield, organized 9 June 1811, and had one share of stock.⁴

This property was involved in some transfers between 1809 and 1822 that are not quite clear, but by 25 March 1822 it was in the possession of William Brown, "colored man and labourer" and his wife Elizabeth, and Thomas Redman, as executor of Attee Leeman, held a \$200 mortgage against it. This was cancelled 12 June 1827. The mortgage deed does not mention ground rent and it shows that the Hannah Parkham property was owned at this time by John Roberts. (Jacob L. Rowand papers at the Hadf. Hist. Soc.).

Attee Leeman's lot finally came into the possession of Rebecca Nicholson, a great granddaughter of John Estaugh Hopkins.

Previous to 1916 she conveyed a part of the triangle, which extended much farther up Haddon Avenue than at present, to the Borough of Haddonfield for a public park. Shubbery was planted and a fountain was put up with a watering place for horses. Some years ago this was removed and the acute angle was rounded for the convenience of traffic.

Rebecca Nicholson donated the remainder of the Leeman lot and a part of the Parkham lot, with certain conditions and restrictions,⁵ (see copy of deed at Hist. Soc.) for the sole use of the Haddonfield Library Company, The Free Public Library, and the Historical Society of Haddonfield

A building for that purpose was erected, by public subscription, in 1917 and the property was accepted by the Borough of Haddonfield 17 December 1919.⁶

Footnotes (prepared by Douglas Rauschenberger):

¹Perches, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, were a superficial measure of land, normally 1/160 of an acre.

²Meeting House street or Road leading to Coopers Ferries is the present day Haddon Avenue. The Friends Meeting House, prior to 1851, was located approximately on the present day site of the Fire House.

³Chains and links were a standard means of measurement used by surveyors well into the 19th century.

⁴The Fire Company was originally organized as the Friendship Fire Company in 1764. It was reorganized and incorporated in 1811.

⁵The conditions and restrictions imposed on the lot are quite specific; they include that no alcohol shall be dispensed on the property; restrictions on future building; use of the property only for park land, library or historical society purposes. Also, a house for the Nicholson's gardner, Edward Smiley, (which stood near the point) was to remain during the lifetime of Rebecca Nicholson and her sister, Sarah. According to an article that appeared in the Haddonfield Herald (Feb. 1, 1951), the house was moved to Pennsauken in 1926, following Mr. Smiley's death.

⁶Due to increased space needs of both the Historical Society and the Library, the Historical Society moved to 231 Kings Highway East in 1938.

The Historical Society of Haddonfield
343 Kings Highway East
Haddonfield, NJ 08033



MR & MRS WILLIAM E MOODY
841 EDGE PARK DRIVE
HADDONFIELD NJ 08033

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PLANS FOR THE 75th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ARE UNDERWAY!

With our 75th birthday celebration plans underway, our celebration committee would like to hear from you.

We are looking for information on people who lived in Haddonfield in 1914.

Please consider volunteering your time and join our committee. You may contact any of the following co-chairpersons who would love to hear from you.

Please contact:

- Myra Kain - *co-chairperson*
(609) 795-0579 (evenings)
- Elisa DesGroseilliers - *co-chairperson*
(609) 354-1243 (evenings)
- Jeanette Woehr - *co-chairperson*
(609) 795-3781 (evenings)